

Emerging T&E Issues

L. Peter Boice

Conservation Team Leader

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Outline

- INRMPs as a substitute for critical habitat designation
- GAO Study
- Species of Concern Project
- Stakeholder Communications



INRMPs and Critical Habitat

- INRMPs prepared under the Sikes Act provide the 'special management consideration or protection' required under the ESA.
- Critical habitat designation is not required where such plans have been prepared and implemented.



INRMPs and Critical Habitat

- INRMPs are required to integrate the protection of natural resources on military lands with military training uses.
- DoD must consult with the FWS and the concerned State wildlife agency as well as seek public comment in the preparation of such plans.



GAO Study

- “Regional Management of the Endangered Species Act by DoD and other Federal Agencies”
- Objectives
 - To what extent is the management of T&E species shared by DoD and other federal landholders in a region?
 - To what extent do interagency plans address T&E species on a regional basis?



GAO Study

- Objectives (continued)
 - What opportunities exist to vary the burden of land use restrictions on selected DoD facilities while still addressing T&E species recovery on a regional basis?
- Status
 - Site visits to Goldwater AFR and Yakima TC
 - Follow-up meetings



Species of Concern Project

- Legacy funded project with NatureServe
- Gain a national perspective on 'species of concern' on military installations
- Provide local assistance in the development of effective management plans



Species of Concern Deliverables

- List for each installation
 - Conservation status
 - Survey and observation information
 - Habitat and threat information
- Summary Table
 - 512 species
 - 346 plants
 - 158 critically imperiled (G1/T1)
- National Map



Stakeholder Communications

- DoD/FWS Endangered Species Roundtable Accomplishments
 - Workshops!
 - Linked FWS Recovery Plans to DoD Web site
 - FWS grants program information
 - One-stop CD-ROM
 - Bald Eagle Poster and Postcard
 - DoD edition of ES Bulletin
 - Fact sheets



Stakeholder Communications

- Section 2811 of Defense Authorization Act for FY 2003
- “Agreements with Private Entities to Enhance Military Training, Testing and Operations”
 - Limit development that would otherwise be incompatible with the military mission
 - Preserve habitat in a manner that is compatible with environmental requirements and military training and testing

